THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As 'Sports' is a State subject in the constitution, the primary responsibility for the creation of sports infrastructure facilities throughout the country, including the rural areas, falls on State Governments. Till 31-3-2005, the Ministry was supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for the creation of sports facilities in various states by providing assistance under the Centrally sponsored Sports Infrastructure Schemes in accordance with the approved pattern subject to the receipt of viable proposals. With effect from 1.4.2005 however, the Sports Infrastructure Schemes were transferred to the State sector. Thus, fresh cases of Sports Infrastructure projects will have to be funded by State Governments out of their own resources. However, funds to the extent of committed liabilities will be provided for ongoing approved Sports Infrastructure projects during the remaining period of the X Plan. At present, there is no proposal to reintroduce the Scheme.

Construction of Central Regional Centre of SAI

†1787. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for construction work of Central Regional Centre of Sports Authority of India going on at snailpace; and

(b) by when this would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Construction of the hostel building, 3 Basketball Courts, the Grassy Football field, the Cinder Athletics Track, the Grassy Hockey Field with chain link, 3 Volleyball Courts and the laying of two Synthetic Hockey Surfaces, Players' facilities and sitting tiers, fencing and drain works, and civil works relating to floodlighting have been completed. As per the current assessment, the remaining construction works are expected to be completed by December 2007.

Programme to showcase India at Melbourne Commonwealth Games

1788. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 40 crore was spent on a 10-12

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

minute programme "To showcase India" at the closing ceremony of the recently held Commonwealth Games at Melbourne;

(b) if so, the kind of image of India that was showcased before the world audience during the show;

(c) the budgetary provision made for the participation of Indian contingent in the said Commonwealth Games; and

(d) the details of Heads of Account under which the expenditure was debited particularly on the games and the administration, head-wise, sub-head-wise, plan-wise, non plan-wise from the budget allocation of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) According to available information the Indian cultural segment in the closing ceremony lasted for around 15 minutes and an amount of Rs. 29 crores was provided for this purpose by the Government of NCT of Delhi to the Organising Committee Commonwealth Games 2010. A private company M/s Wizcraft was contracted for organizing the cultural event.

(b) The programme involved 900 artistes drawn both from India and the Indian community resident in Melbourne and surrounding areas. The programme included a multifaceted presentation of various Indian art and culture forms, supplemented by an audio-visual presentation of different parts of Delhi and India. Leading film artistes, including, Ms. Aishwarya Rai, Shri Saif Ali Khan and Ms. Rani Mukherjee participated in the event.

(c) No specific budget provision was made for the participation of the Indian Contingent for the Commonwealth Game; the expenditure is likely to be about Rs. 2.87 crores. These Games are funded from the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations which caters to the various activites related to promotions of Sports. The expenditure on the participation of Indian contingent includes ceremonial kit, out of pocket allowance, to and fro air fare, uniform, etc.

(d) As indicated above, the funds for the Indian cultural segment at the closing ceremony were provided by Government of NCT of Delhi. The funds for participation of Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games, 2006 were provided by the Government of India from — "Demand

No. 105, Youth Affairs and Sports, Major Head 2204 — Sports & Youth Services, Minor Head—00.104 — Sports & Games, 07 — Assistance to National Sports Federations, 07-00.31 — Grant-in-aid-2005-06 (Plan)."

Delegation to Melbourne

1789. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sent any delegation to Melbourne to acquire first hand knowledge in view of Commonwealth Games at Delhi in 2010;

(b) whether the delegation has submitted any report to Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Delegations of agencies concerned with the preparation for the Commonwealth Games, 2010 (CWG 2010), namely, the Sports Authority of India, the Government of NCT of Delhi, the Delhi Development Authority and CPWD have visited Melbourne. The Organising Committee have also deputed secondees and observers drawn from different departments and disciplines. In addition, an official delegation was deputed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in two batches to witness and observe the Melbourne Games.

(b) and (c) Officials of CPWD and DDA have submitted their reports to their respective administrative Ministries. SAI have submitted a detailed report to this Ministry containing observations, comments and recommendations relevant to the organization of CWG 2010. Based on the studies undertaken by delegations, inputs have been obtained for plans for sports venues, infrastructure and management to be developed by these agencies for CWG 2010.

Poor performance by India in Sports events

1790. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to find out the reasons for poor performance of India in the Athens Olympic Games and other International events;